

Application No. 10/816,035
Amendment dated July 11, 2006
Reply to Office action of April 21, 2006

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include change to Figures 1 and 2. These sheets, which include Figures 1 through 3 inclusive, replace the original sheets including Figures 1 through 3 inclusive. In the amended Figures 1 and 2, the reference numeral 16 designating the reinforcing brace has been changed to 16A in order to eliminate the use of the same designation 16 for two different elements.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets.
Annotated Sheets Showing Changes.

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the specification, the paragraphs [0002] and [0014] have been amended to correct minor informalities which were pointed out by the Examiner and to describe the invention more specifically.

In the amended Figures 1 and 2, the reference numeral 16 designating the reinforcing brace has been changed to 16A in order to eliminate the duplicate use of the same reference numeral for two different elements.

Claims 1, 4 and 8 have been amended to define the present invention more specifically and to distinguish over the cited references.

Claims 2 and 5 remain unchanged in the application.

Claims 3, 6 and 7 have been canceled without prejudice.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the pertinency of the cited references. The crux of the present invention is to provide a device for making south Asian noodles called string hopper consisting of a mixture of rice flour and white flour particularly for domestic consumption. The machine is light weight, compact in design, easy to use and sustaining extreme operation duty. Due to the consistency of the string hopper mixture common noodles making machines are not suitable for this purpose. As now specifically defined in the amended claims, the device comprises a combination of various elements in the unique manner

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and is operative to provide the desired purpose. The frame structure of the device of the present invention is particularly important in the combination for providing the durability and the ruggedness for making string hopper.

The cited Dungan U. S. Patent No.1,607,880 is directed to an ice cream shredding machine which does not provide the ruggedness for making string hopper. The stand 11 as well as the bearing 24 do not have the strength to support the force required in making string hopper. It is respectfully submitted that under 35 U. S. C. 102(b), the rejected claim defining a combination of elements must be directly readable on the reference which can be operated to provide the same required purpose. The Dungan device can certainly not be operated to make string hopper from a mixture of rice flour and white flour having a consistency entirely different than ice cream or similar material. The combination of the elements as a whole currently defined in the amended Claim 1 and particularly the recitation, inter alia, "...a generally L-shaped frame having two spaced mutually parallel vertical side plates and a front extension portion extending forward from said frame,...a horizontal support plate located at a lower edge of said extension portion, a container mounting opening formed in said support plate and adapted to engage with a lower portion of said container for mounted said container to said support plate,..." are not readable on the Dungan device.

The Examiner is also respectfully requested to reconsider the rejection based on 35 U. S. C. S. 103. The cited references, considered individually or in combination, neither infer nor suggest a rugged device for making string hopper as specifically defined in the currently amended claims. The cited Masuzawa U. S. Patent No.4,465,452 shows a food extruder which utilizes a hydraulic pump to operate a piston for extruding food from a hollow drum. Such machine may not be used for making string hopper since the degree of hydraulic pressure is far too great for the purpose, and the frame structure of the Masuzawa machine is entire different than that of the rugged frame of the present invention as defined in the amended claims. The

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vertical screw for operating the piston shown in the cited Curry U. S. Patent No. 2,351,493 and Baccellieri U. S. Patent No. 1,639,791 are awkward to operate and the devices therein do not have the rugged frame structure of the present invention. The cited Federichi et al U. S. Patent No. 2,219,889 and Comstock U. S. Patent No. 1,757,447 show hamburger patty forming devices in which the upper press is operated with a vertical worm gear driven by an electric motor. Clearly these references do not infer or suggest the present invention. The cited Mieszczak U. S. Patent No. 4,092,205, Liddle U. S. Patent No. 805,566, and Evers U. S. Patent No. 268,088 show various devices for making tees, cork and cigars certainly do not infer or suggest the present invention. The Mieszczak, Liddle and Evers references show pivot arm systems somewhat remotely similar to the pivot arm system in the present invention. It is earnestly submitted that in order to combine references under 35 USC 103, the references must have suggestion of how they may be combined to arrive at the invention being considered to provide the desired results of the invention. None of the cited references individually or in combination shows a device having a combination of elements including a rugged frame structure as succinctly defined in the amended claims. It is erroneous to dissect an invention into various components and consider that those components individually are somewhat similar to some individual components in the cited references and then make the presumptive conclusion that the invention is obvious. Such presumptive consideration by the Examiner is erroneous since the desired result is made obvious only with the benefit of the disclosure of the present invention.

Furthermore, the cited references are issued from 1882 to 1984, spanning a period of 102 years, and yet the Examiner is unable to locate a reference directly showing the present invention providing the unique desired result for making string hopper. Clearly, it shows that the combination is not obvious.

The cited Canadian publication No. 2,296,024 shows a string hopper making machine which also employs a complex worm gear system for operating the piston and the mixture

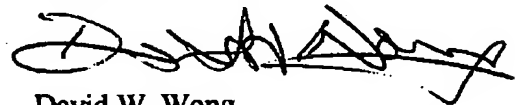
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container is mounted on a separate plate which is slidably mounted to channels formed on two sides of the frame whereas the mixture container in the present invention is removably mounted to a support plate which is fixedly mounted to the lower edge of the side plates of the frame to provide the required ruggedness.

Since the device as defined in Claims 1 through 4 are distinguishable over the cited references as discussed above. It is believed that the combination as defined in Claim 5 including the use of ABS plastic material for making the mixture container is distinguishable of the cited references.

With the amendments now applied, it is believed the application is now in allowance condition. Early passage to allowance of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments

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 Annotated Sheet No. 1 of 2 Showing Changes

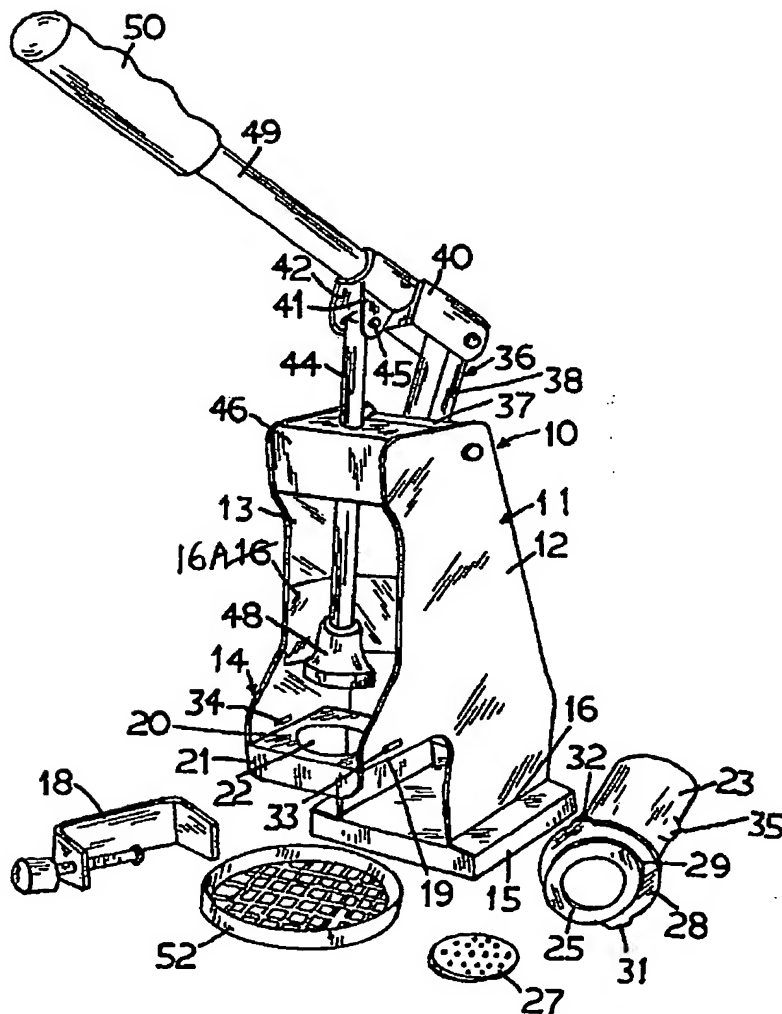


Fig. 1.

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 Annotated Sheet No.2 of 2 Showing Changes

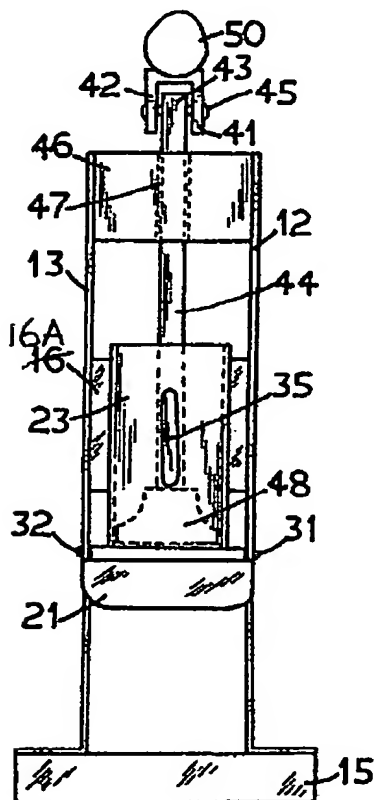


Fig. 2.

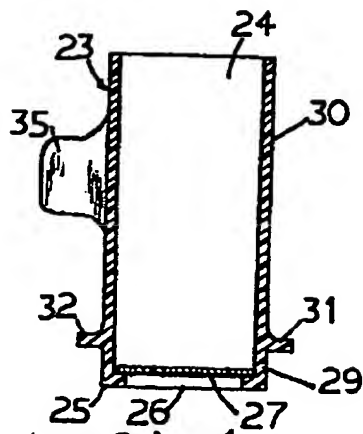


Fig. 4.

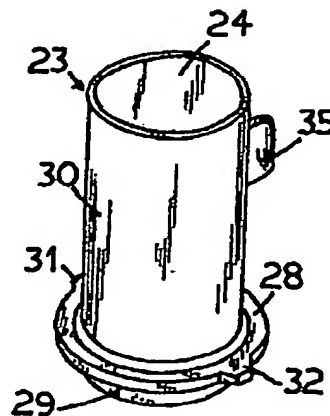


Fig. 3.